Highway Department Uses Giant Markers

Combining practical and applied psychology with physical elements, the Virginia Department of Highways is trying out giant-size warning road signs in an effort to reduce accidents at locations where conventional signs were not observed and obeyed.

Traffic and Planning Engineers of the highway department have doubled the size of the standard 30-by-30 inch warning signs, and the new five-by-five feet "STOP" signs now are being tested for their effectiveness at main road intersections where drivers did not see or failed to pay attention to the warnings.

One of the over-size markers is located in Loudoun County at the crossing of US Routes 15 and 50. The other is at the intersection of US Routes 15 and 460, east of Farmville.

Engineers believe that the motorists already have obtained beneficial results from the larger warning signs which help alleviate a situation that has produced accidents. Alerted motorists tend to keep up their

guards against accidents, engineers say.

More time, of course, is needed to determine finally whether familiarity with the over-size sign might not find the motorists reverting to their old habits of unguarded driving on approaches to the intersections.

The average motorist does not intend to be careless, engineers say, but the 30-by-30-inch sign often is not seen by the drivers, particularly when there are distractions. Drawing attention from the smaller "STOP" signs are such items as buildings, billboards, and moving objects.

One of the obvious advantages of the larger warning signs is that it may be seen for longer distances—as much as a half mile away on straight and level road, provided the weather is clear. The larger area of yellow of these signs contrasts well against sky, billboards, buildings or trees. The five-foot sign is set high enough to be in the line of vision of a driver and at the same time stand out from the general background pattern.

The over-size "STOP" warning west of Farmville at the intersection of US Routes 460 and 15 has been in service almost a year, and before-and-after studies of this intersection conclusively point to a drop in violations since the larger sign and an advance "STOP SIGN AHEAD" warning were erected.

Prior to the erection of the signs, a 24-hour check of Virginia vehicles showed that 18 per cent failed to stop, 27 per cent came to a rolling "Hollywood stop," and 55 per cent coming to a legal full halt.

On the same day two months later, the number of drivers running through the signs was reduced from 18 per cent to 4 per cent, with 63 per cent of the drivers making a full stop and 33 per cent coming to a rolling stop.

The engineers pointed out that the larger signs are too big and too expensive for general use. Including the signs and an island for the warnings, the markings of Routes 460-15 cost $850. The signs alone cost $150.

FIELD STUDY COMPLETED ON INFRARED BROODING

Farmers using infrared lamp for brooding poultry in Virginia seem to be well satisfied.

This is indicated by a field study conducted in 18 counties among 22 farmers, says Campbell G. Chambliss, field studies project leader for Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station.

He said that most of the farmers contacted said they would recommend infrared poultry brooding to other farmers. Only two users considered the cost of electricty too high. Yet, when they considered initial cost, labor and convenience, all but one said it was economical.

The mortality of the individual flocks ranged from zero to 6.6 per cent. Twenty-two users raised 28,-345 chicks and lost only 476. Thus, the overall mortality was only 1.65 per cent. Stated another way, only two chicks per each 100 started were lost.

Brooding equipment varied from gas-lamp brooders to 12 brooders using six lamps. All the farmers used 250-watt lamps, and the lamp that lasted the longest and suffered less breakage was the heat resistant (black glass) type.

Chicks brooded with infrared feathered and grew as well or better than chicks raised with other brooding equipment. When sold at 9 to 10 weeks old the chicks averaged three pounds each. Those kept for layers started laying at an average age of 21 1-2 weeks.

These flocks were brooding during winter, spring and summer 1951 in conventional type brooder houses and only two flocks had any supplemental heat. Power failures, for a period of three hours, occurred in three flocks, but no chicks were lost because of the power shortage. The lamps were started 18 inches above the top of litter, and raised as the chicks grew older, or when the weather turned warmer. The farmers brooded various numbers of chicks per lamp, but the general recommendation for each 250-watt lamp is 60 to 100 chicks, depending on the season of the year.

The field study was conducted by the Experiment Station in cooperation with the Virginia Farm Electrification Council. A publication, "Infrared Brooding," concerning instructions and recommendations is available from county agents.

FLORISTS TO MEET IN LYNCHBURG

Flower growers from Virginia and adjoining states will meet for their bi-annual meeting February 19 and 20 in Lynchburg.

They will hear discussions by leading floriculturists on such subjects as "Adjusting Greenhouse Crops to the War Economy" and "Production of Vegetable and Bedding Plants."

The first day's sessions will feature an address by D. J. Witt, Washington, D. C., president of the Middle Atlantic Florist Association; visits to greenhouses in the Lynchburg area; and a demonstration of soil testing by N. O. Frie, assistant chemist, Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station, VPI.

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Pamplin Vicinity

Feb. 12.- D. B. Williams and Mrs. Jack Williams spent Sunday in Appomattox with Mrs. Williams' parents, Mr. and Mrs. J. G. Milliner.

T. R. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. Roberson, Mrs. Thelma McVay, of Roanoke were visitors in the home of Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Hubbard on Saturday. Also Mr. Sammy Hubbard, Mrs. Ora Dowdy and Mrs. Lois Hubbard, of Richmond visited in the same home.

Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Greene, of Farmville spent Sunday with Mrs. Juddy Glover and girls.

Mr. and Mrs. Basil Bryant spent Sunday in Cullen with Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Bryant.

Miss Sandra Roach, and Euwilda Webber spent Tuesday night with Miss Cassie Baldwin.

Miss Evelyn Ferguson spent the week-end at Farmville with her aunt Mrs. Davis Anderson.

Those visiting Mrs. Greene Garnette Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. Divolo Garrett and daughter Peggy; Mr. and Mrs. Junior Blackwell and son, James Allen; Mr.and Mrs.Leonard Blackwell.

Mr. and Mrs. William Terry and Mr. and Mrs. Dillard Ferguson went to Piney Grove to a missionary meeting Saturday night.

Miss Polly Longsworth, of Prospect spent the week-end with Peggy Garrett.

Mr. and Mrs. S. R. Hubbard spent Sunday with Mrs. E. A. Meadows, of Farmville.

Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Tibbs, of Spring Mills; Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Paulette, of Lynchburg; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cumbly all visited Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Cumby during the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Ligon attended the ordination of deacons at Hixburg Sunday.

Mrs. Bernard Nash and son, Jimmy spent the week-end with her mother in Lynchburg.

Mr. and Mrs. Junior Ferguson, of Appomattox called to see Mr. and Mrs. Frank Cumby.

Report First Blue Mold

First reports of blue mold in the southern states tobacco crop have been received from Georgia, and S. B. Penne, plant pathologist at VPI, again reminds Virginia farmers to prepare for the annual onslaught of the disease.

He says that it is important to protect the early plants from blue mold, not so much because they might be killed, but primarily because infected early plants serve as a source for diseases spread to later plants when conditions become favorable for the disease to develop.

In Virginia, farmers started sowing tobacco last week. They are advised to start spraying or dusting tobacco plants as soon as they are the size of a dime. If blue mold is not present in Virginia it will be safe to spray or dust only once each week. However, as soon as blue mold is reported in the state or nearby, tobacco plants should be covered with funicide twice each week. Every leaf, both top and bottom and stems must be covered for application.

Fenne says it is hard to control blue mold forecast very far in advance. The severity of the disease depends on weather conditions. Rodney Roach, Mr. and Mrs. Roach and Mr. and Mrs. Harding the plant growing period Ransom and family went to are plenty of blue mold spores Appomattox Monday to attend the sent in the whole tobacco area funeral of Mr. Robert Inge. ing for favorable weather.

Check equipment now to Mrs. R. C. Baldwin was quite ill an adequate supply of spray Tuesday. She is in the home of dusting material, Fenne ad daughter, Mrs. James R. Taylor. A doctor was to see her several times last week.

Sandra Roach played in the basketball team at Big Island Tuesday night. Also Jean Shelton and Merry-

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MONUMENT TO A MAN

THOMAS ALVA EDISON was born 105 years ago this month. When he died at the age of eighty-four, he was buried in a grave which is unmarked to this day.

But through every night, a million million monuments gleam. . . . Lights on the street corner, guiding the homeward bound. Lights over the operating table where a life may hang in balance. Lights that illuminate defense plants, so that production need not stop with darkness.

The television or radio show you enjoyed last night . . . the movie you saw last week . . . all these and so many more pleasures and conveniences of modern living stemmed directly from his research and work.

No field of endeavor seemed foreign to his talents. He patented a system of wireless telegraphy six years before Marconi. He invented the transmitter that made Bell's telephone commercially practical; devised revolutionary improvements in storage batteries; pioneered in the field of electronics.

VEPCO joins the electric industry in saluting this great man. He was the founder of the first business-managed electric light and power company, and it was to men and women of companies like VEPCO that Edison said: "The record is wonderful—but fine as it is, it can be made still better, and I have a feeling that, in your hands, it will be!"

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Rocks

Rocks, Feb. 11.- It was a beautiful day here yesterday.

Mrs. D. R. Inge, Mr. and Mrs. Inge and Audrey Daye; Mr. and Mrs. Claiborne Inge, Mr. and Mrs. Roach and Mr. and Mrs. Harrison and family went to Appomattox Monday to attend the funeral of Mr. Robert Inge.

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lyn Harris.

The February meeting of the Rocks Home Demonstration Club was held Thursday night in the home of Mrs. Toby Inge.

Mrs. A. R. Harwood, Sr., of Appomattox furnished the club with music on her harp. The hostess served refreshments.

Friends are sorry to hear that Mrs. W. C. Garrett and Mrs. Randall Wooldridge are patients at the Virginia Baptist Hospital. They underwent an operation there last week. We wish them a speedy recovery.

The deacons from Rocks Church attended a meeting in the home of the pastor, Rev. David L. Bailey, at Evergreen Friday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Edward Ranson went to Charlotte Court House awhile on Wednesday night.

C. S. Ranson and girls and Edward Ranson called in the home of Mrs. W. F. Ranson and Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Ranson awhile Thursday night.

D. B. Williams, of Pamplin called in the home of James R. Taylor awhile Thursday night.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Roach called to see Mrs. R. C. Baldwin awhile Friday night. Mrs. C. W. Baldwin and children were to see Mrs. R. C. Baldwin several times last week.

Mrs. Lizzie Robinson, Cassie Baldwin and Louise Webber, of Pamplin were at the Home Demonstration Club at Mrs. Toby Inge's Thursday night.

Donnie Wooldridge returned from the hospital last Sunday to the home of Mr. and Mrs. Cal Ranson.

Miss Gertrude Ranson and Mrs. Holmsey Inge, Jr. and children, of Appomattox attended Sunday School at Rocks Sunday.

The W. M. S. met Sunday just after Sunday School. Mrs. Edward Ranson had charge of the program.

The Rev. David L. Bailey was at Mathews Church at Hixburg Sunday afternoon, for the ordination service of some new deacons.

Cassie Baldwin was visiting her aunt, Mrs. J. Henry Wilkerson ,at Prospect Sunday afternoon. Mrs. Wilkerson fell a few days ago and got a bone broke.

Don't forget preaching service this Sunday at 11:00 A. M.

Pamplin

Pamplin, Feb. 11.- Mr. and Mrs. Austin Goode and children visited relatives in Bedford Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lucado and Dick Baldwin spent Sunday in Richmond.

Guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Terry Sunday were Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Harvey, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Curry Harvey, of Appomattox.

Sunday guests in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wiley Richardson were Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert Fore, of Petersburg and Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Yates, of Farmville.

Mrs. R. W. Smith was a week-end visitor at Ashland.

Mrs. N. L. McClenny was called to Blackburg Monday due to the death of her nephew, J. R. Brown.

The regular monthly meeting of the Ruritan Club was held Friday night, February 8, in the high school building, with 22 members present. President Eugene Sears was in charge of the meeting. Edward Ranson and William Hix gave interesting reports of the Ruritan convention which they attended in Asheville, N. C. Supper was served at the Woodside Bar-Bee-Cue on Route 460, east of Pamplin.

Miss Anne B. Terry attended the Amparo-Jose Iturbi two-piano recital held at the Mosque in Richmond Sunday evening.

Give today to the HEART FUND campaign!

Listen to The Country Editor, at 7:15 P. M. each Friday over radio station WWOD, Lynchburg.

Churchill extols the life of late King George VI.

Group of Socialist leaders acquitted in Argentina.

Each side in Korea makes concessions on terms of truce.

Evergreen

Evergreen, Feb. 12.- The W. S. C. S. meeting was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Baker Tuesday night, with a good attendance.

Mrs. O. C. Paulette and Mrs. Ryland Staples and daughter, Barbara Kay spent Friday with Mrs. D. R. Inge.

Mrs. R. H. Wooldridge and Mrs. W. C. Garrett are patients at the Virginia Baptist Hospital.

Bob Harris, of Bluefield College, spent the week-end with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. E. Harris.

Mrs. T. E LeGrande spent Thursday night in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Paulette.

Jackie White, of Red House spent the week-end in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Z. E. Cheatham.

Quite a number from here visited the sick ones at the Virginia Baptist Hospital Sunday evening.

Those who called to see Patricia and Nell Farrar Saturday were Barbara and Eleanor Goin, Ann Hodges, and Jackie White.

The Rev. David L. Bailey preached a splendid sermon here Sunday evening: text, The Second Coming of Christ.

Dan Harvey, USN, of Norfolk, spent the week-end with his father, R. F. Harvey.

Mr. and Mrs. George Franklin, of Appomattox were dinner guests on Sunday in the home of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Paulette.

Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Baker and Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Baker and baby and Mr. and Mrs. James Womack and son, Jimmy were dinner guests Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Tommie Jennings, of Hopewell.

Pfc. Henry C. Staples, left by plane Monday P. M. for Fort Lawton, Washington.

Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth St. John and son, of Phenix were the dinner guests Sunday in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Melvin Garrett.

Mr. and Mrs. Billy Harvey, and Mrs. I. C. Harvey and daughter, Ida, of Darlington Heights called in the home of Mrs. Emma Thomas Sunday.

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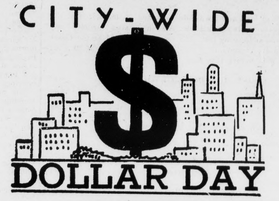

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